



## **AZ Cap Times -- Best of the Capitol Awards**

**Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer**

**Tuesday, June 4, 5:30 p.m.**

**Phoenix Art Museum**

**Thank you, Ginger ... and good evening to all the distinguished guests here tonight!**

**Because Dancing with the Stars is not on tonight and I already finished watching the paint dry at home, it is good to be here to welcome you all to 8<sup>th</sup> annual Arizona Capitol Times Best of the Capitol awards.**

**I understand this year's theme is a quote from Frank Underwood: "Friends do make the worst enemies."**

**Tonight is designed to be a fun, end-of-session event ... bringing together lawmakers, lobbyists and media ... to relax and reflect on the highlights of the past year.**

**You know, I was hoping for a glass of water up here, but realized the City of Phoenix would tax me for that.**

**Seriously, I look forward to this event after spending several busy – and at times contentious – months together ... passing meaningful legislation, enacting historic reforms ... effecting positive change for generations to come ...**

**... in other words, MY AGENDA.**

**This year's event is especially significant for me. As you know, I announced I would not seek another term as Governor.**

**Well, you know, I've been looking closely at the candidates ... to see which of them I think is best to succeed me ... and which is most likely to build on the hard-fought successes of these past six years.**

**While I find all of them likeable . . . well, OK, most of them ... I've come to one conclusion: The state (AND the Arizona Republic) can't afford to be without me as governor.**

**So, I've consulted with my advisors.**

**I know what you're thinking ... JAN BREWER can't run for another term, right?**

**Well, maybe so, but as of this morning, I have legally changed my name to Cesar Chavez!**

**Did I mention the Arizona Republic asked me to hand out their "newspaper" tonight to this group. Yes, it is their strategic plan to TRIPLE their circulation.**

**Joking aside, we did just finish a hugely successful special legislative session. We made history together this year, and that's cause for celebration!**

**In fact, the recent child safety reform special session demonstrated perhaps the greatest bipartisanship the Arizona Legislature has ever seen, of course ... other than the Medicaid Restoration special session last year.**

**By the way, I have the legal standing to make that joke; President Biggs and Speaker Tobin do not.**

**And we also had a wildly productive regular session, as well – passing key economic development and tax initiatives ... a sound, responsible budget ... anti-human trafficking legislation ... all this, and we only went one day over the 100-day mark!**

**This was as productive and memorable a year as I can recall ... and it could not have been accomplished – or reported on – without many of the people in this very room.**

**So I want to thank you all!**

**I also want to congratulate tonight's winners in advance – it's always heartening to be recognized by your peers and competitors for your good work ... or well-groomed hair ... or excellent taste in footwear.**

**With that, I hope everyone has a fantastic evening. Have fun ... be safe ... and remember -- if you have too much to drink, use your Uber APP!**

**... *Too soon???***

**Thank you!**